

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07

COME-00 ACDA-05 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /080 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:GGBROWN:PM

APPROVED BY NEA:ARDBAY

PM/MC:WROBINSON

NEA/RA:EAPADELFORD

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R 240249Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, MILI, EG, PFOR

SUBJECT: EMBASSY/CONTRACTOR CONTACT WITH GOE OFFICIALS REGARDING EQUIPMENT SALES FOR POTENTIAL MILITARY APPLICATIONS

REF: CAIRO 2147

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES DILEMMA FACED BY EMBASSY IN TRYING TO BE AS HELPFUL TO U.S. BUSINESSMEN AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT RAISING EXPECTATIONS ABOUT FUTURE ARMS SALES WITH EITHER EGYPTIANS OR THE BUSINESSMEN. AS REGARDS U.S. BUSINESSMEN REQUESTING EMBASSY ASSISTANCE, WE RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE WITH NAMES OF POSSIBLE CONTACTS. WE RECOMMEND AGAINST THE EMBASSY ASSISTING WITH ANY OF THE ARRANGEMENTS, SUCH AS TELEPHONE CALLS TO SET UP MEETINGS, AND WE RECOMMEND AGAINST EMBASSY

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PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING THESE BUSINESSMEN ON THEIR CALLS.

EMBASSY OFFICERS SHOULD BE CANDID WITH THE BUSINESSMEN IN NOTING THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE IS NO BASIS INON WHICH TO ASSUME THAT USG APPROVAL WILL BE FORTHCOMING ON THESE TYPES OF SALES AND THAT IT IS IN OUR INTEREST NOT TO RAISE EGYPTIAN EXPECTATIONS ABOUT THEM. THE EMBASSY IS REMINDED THAT TECHNICAL DATA ON MUNITION CONTROL ITEMS CANNOT BE RELEASED TO EGYPT WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE MUNITIONS CONTROL OFFICE.

2. WE RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY CONTINUE ITS PRESENT POLICY OF DECLINING TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO EGYPTIANS IN ARRANGING INTRODUCTIONS FOR POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF MILITARY ITEMS. ANY CHANGE IN THE EMBASSY'S PRESENT POSITION MIGHT BE MIS-INTERPRETED BY EGYPTIANS AS SIGNAL THAT SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY SALES HAS CHANGED.

INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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